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SPECIAL PROGRAMMES OF ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama and Paraguay: draft resolution

Special Plan of Economic Cooperation for Central America

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 42/1 of 7 October 1987, 43/24 of 15 November 1988, 44/10 of 23 October 1989 and 45/15 of 20 November 1990,

Recalling in particular its resolution 42/204 of 11 December 1987, 42/231 of 12 May 1988, 43/210 of 20 December 1988, 44/182 of 19 December 1989, 45/231 of 21 December 1990 and 46/170 of 19 December 1991,

Recalling the importance of the efforts made by the Secretary-General with respect to the situation in Central America and the continuing involvement of the United Nations in economic cooperation for the region,

Particularly interested in ensuring that the emergency situation in Central America continues to be addressed, especially in view of the severe economic and social crisis that still affects the region,

Recognizing the work being done by the United Nations Development Programme in discharging the responsibilities entrusted to it for the coordination of the Special Plan of Economic Cooperation for Central America, 1/ in accordance with the decisions which the Central American Governments have taken on the subject,

Recognizing also the importance of the Special Plan, especially in promoting intraregional and international consensus on securing and coordinating cooperation; the assistance provided to Central American countries in setting

1/ A/42/949, annex.

priorities for their development; the involvement of the international community in attaining priority goals; the strengthening of regional organizations, including the General Secretariat of the Central American Integration System, the Central American Bank for Economic Integration, the Permanent Secretariat of the General Treaty on Economic Integration and the Central American Parliament; the mobilization of international resources for the region and the gearing of programmes to the social sector; and the role of the International Conference on Central American Refugees as a vital tool of the emergency programme of the Special Plan,

Bearing in mind that establishing a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development is a fundamental goal in Central America,

Recognizing the commitments assumed at the Presidential summits, especially the commitments on establishing a framework of priorities with a view to building peace with human development in Central America, which calls for the identification of fundamental changes of activity and the preparation of a new integrated and sustained development strategy,

Noting that the Presidents of the Central American countries at their fourteenth summit meeting, held from 27 to 29 October 1993, appealed to the international community to support the efforts of the Governments of the subregion to alleviate poverty by carrying out programmes and projects oriented to human development, stating that Central America offered the necessary conditions for establishing interdependence between peace and development and that the building of peace would be strengthened if such interdependence was made effective through an integrated approach,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the Special Plan of Economic Cooperation for Central America, 2/ which describes the status of implementation of the Special Plan, together with requirements in terms of the resources and financial assistance indispensable to the completion of priority programmes and projects for building peace;

2. Requests, given the need to anticipate the depletion of resources under the Special Plan and the conclusion in May 1994 of the International Conference on Central American Refugees, that the necessary resources be provided for the establishment of updated and new regional programmes through arrangements which the Central American countries are to determine jointly with the cooperation community and the agencies of the United Nations system, especially the United Nations Development Programme, with a view to preventing any reversal of the achievements in Central America and building peace in the region through integrated and sustained development;

3. Urges all States, intergovernmental organizations, international financial institutions, the organs and specialized agencies of the United Nations system and regional and subregional organizations to step up support for the implementation of the goals and objectives of the Special Plan, taking into account the requirements of the countries of the region, which continues to be affected by a severe economic and social crisis;

2/ A/48/405.

4. Again stresses the urgent need for the international community to maintain its cooperation with the Central American countries and to provide them with the necessary additional financial resources on concessional and appropriate terms, with a view to effectively promoting the development and economic growth of the region;

5. Supports the decision taken by the Presidents of the Central American countries at their fourteenth summit meeting with respect to the adoption of decentralization policies oriented to human development at the local level and linked where necessary to macroeconomic policies, given the need to ensure a continuum from humanitarian assistance to development cooperation;

6. Notes with appreciation the effective support extended by international and regional financial institutions to the priority programmes and projects which the Central American countries have identified as regards energy, communications, roads and agriculture within the framework of the Special Plan;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to it at its forty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the Special Plan;

8. Decides to examine and evaluate the implementation of the Special Plan at its forty-ninth session.